

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Technical Advisory Committee

June 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Contact: Guangyu Wang, 231-576-6639

Attendance

TAC Members

Steve Bay (Chair)	Present
Mas Dojiri (Vice Chair)	Absent
Rich Ambrose	Present
John Dorsey	Absent
Rainer Hoenicke	Present
Karen Martin	Present
Dan Pondella	Present
Eric Sein	Present

Staff Present

Tom Ford, Executive Director
Guangyu Wang, Deputy Director
Victoria Gambale
Karina Johnston
Heather Burdick

Members of the Public

Michael Omary, APD Clean Water Technologies
Erica Yelensky, US EPA (via phone)
Jim Landry, LMU
Phyllis Grifman, Sea Grant

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Steve Bay called the meeting to order at 9:44 am. Round robin introductions followed.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Omary introduced himself and asked to be on an agenda for a future meeting to introduce and present his new technology. Steve Bay requested to get a formal email from Omary with more information and a link to his website. Phyllis Grifman announced a recommendation by Congress to retain \$63 million of funding for the National Sea Grant Program

3. GENERAL BUISNESS

- a. Order of Agenda- order was not changed
- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes- Steve Bay submitted minor changes to Guangyu Wang. The minutes were approved as amended M: Rich Ambrose, S: Eric Stein, A: Rainer Hoenicke.
- c. Reports from the Chair, Subcommittees, and Staff
Guangyu Wang gave an update on the June Governing Board meeting, including the MOA between the Foundation and Commission, the shift of personnel, Tom Ford's report on the Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) revision, the City of LA's presentation on Ballona Creek Bacterial TMDL compliance project, and the pH sensor project.

Tom Ford reported EPA's understanding regarding possible adjustment of the State of the Bay (SotB) report timeline to make it in sync with timing of the Bight survey. He also reported on the

BRP revision and its correlation with the Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP) and Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, the status of Malibu Lagoon monitoring project, kelp project, aerial survey program, Santa Monica Pier shore station funding search, and potential future uses of ROV for seagrass survey. Q&A and discussion followed. Eric Stein will follow up with Ford on the transition of SMC from the five year reporting cycle to the annual reporting cycle.

d. Member Comment

Karen Martin brought and distributed Pacific Coast Sea Shores identification guides. Eric Stein reported on a new eelgrass project funded by the San Diego Regional Board and potential opportunity for leveraging and expanding. Discussion followed.

4. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: State of the Bay reports- Data gap review and report development timeline

Guangyu Wang gave an introductory presentation on this subject. Discussion followed. Wang suggested that the existing habitat condition assessment framework should continue be utilized for further SofB reporting. The CMP update underway will create a roadmap that the reports will further identify existing data streams and data streams that are missing, and identify the path forward to fill those data gaps. Potential reporting on one habitat type in depth on annual basis can be considered instead of one report encompassing everything every five years. The first two annual reporting will go for low hanging fruit but be aware that it's not an opportunistic reporting and within five years the report will cover all habitat types. Rainer noted there should be an analysis or forecast for anticipated changes in the next few years such as new permits, dam removal, and management components so the report planning can work backwards from there. Steve Bay recapped the plan and process for the SotB report. Ford again noted the CMP will inform data gaps and the next five year horizon report will still occur but in sync with the Bight report.

5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: Update of the Santa Monica Bay Comprehensive Monitoring Program- Workshop planning

Guangyu Wang gave the CMP presentation. Wang suggested a series of workshops so not all groups have to meet at once in a big workshop which is difficult to schedule and coordinate. TAC members agree this approach is best. It was suggested workshop meetings occur prior to Sept 22 TAC meeting so that at the TAC meeting it could be pulled together and then the rollout workshop could occur after that. It was noted that a formal CMP product/ document is needed. It was noted that missing habitats may include terrestrial, and human benefits and values. Potentially human benefits and values as well as human health risks can fit into the existing SotB framework since they may change with the different habitat types. It was noted that socioeconomic role or benefits and human health risks are missing from the CMP and although they maybe be considered and added in the future. The Bight 18 kickoff meeting is Sept 14th so potential better connections can be developed between the two. Rainer commented on the need to protect physical, biological, and chemical properties of water quality. Eric Stein suggested answering the question how effective the projects are that are being implemented. TAC agreed everything needs to be considered however we need to focus first on some of the habitat types that we know have data gaps. TAC then went through each habitat type to rank it as low, moderate, or high priority for improving monitoring and having a focus workgroup to work on the monitoring design to fill the data gaps. TAC identified focus workgroups and lead TAC members for the prioritized habitats, including rocky intertidal (Rich Ambrose), sandy shore (Karen Martin), rocky subtidal/kelp (Dan Pondella), wetlands/Riparian (Eric Stein), pelagic (Mas Dojiri). Phyllis suggested embedding socio-economics considerations into each habitat type, Rich Ambrose agreed and noted

there should be new indicators for them and it may change the priority for some habitat types or at least the priority for some indicators.

6. Consideration of Approval of new TAC membership recommendations

Steve Bay recapped the process to add TAC members and discussion followed.

TAC recommends adding Phyllis Grifman as a TAC member. M: Eric Stein, S: Dan Pondell.

Do not consider adding Phil Markel as a TAC member. Motion: Eric Stein, Second: Rainer Hoenicke, In favor: Steve Bay, Abstained: Rich Ambrose, Opposed: Dan Pondella, Karen Martin. This discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09pm.